The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

JULY 2020 VOLUME 17, ISSUE 7 ©Radio Club of Tacoma W7DK

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DAVE W7UUU

Time to start looking to the future – where will RCT meet?

I hope this month's column finds everyone well and settling more and more into the "new normal", as everyone seems to be calling it now. It's soon to be time we should start looking ahead to the possibility that in a month or two, we might indeed be able to find ourselves meeting in person once a month, and possibly for the Board of Directors as well. Although I do find the BOD meeting to be pretty darned convenient to do from home, it's the General Meeting that just isn't the same!

Of course, by now most have heard that the summer picnic scheduled for Sunday August 9th has been cancelled. It's just as well though, because although the Fort Steilacoom Park itself will remain open, all of the picnic shelters will remain closed for the duration, and by state decree groups larger than five persons are still not being allowed.

At the same time, we do need to start looking forward to the time when we can meet in person again. The club officially resigned our relationship with Eagles Aerie #3 effective in April, when the annual contract would have needed to be signed and funded again. And of course, I'm well aware that many in the club were not happy with that location for our general meetings for any number of reasons, so it's just as well.

But Anne N7ANN and I, after more than 4 years of working out meeting locations, have since resigned that responsibility. As we now live way out in Port Orchard, it's just not as convenient as it was when we lived in University Place to "pop out for an hour or two" during the work day to view locations, interview lessors, review rental agreements and prices, and all that goes with selecting locations. We just no longer have the bandwidth in our days to investigate locations.

Page1: Da Prez!

Page 3: From the Editor

Page: 6—13 Club Reports

Page 14—21 Mail Bag!

Another Tip 'o the hat goes to all of our valued contributors!

So we very much need to find someone willing to step up and assume this "investigative role" in researching locations and negotiating the details. Perhaps one or more of those who felt Aerie #3 just wasn't a good fit might in fact be aware of a location that could be had that would meet all of the many needs of our membership: adequate seating and tables, plenty of parking, roomy presentation area and large screen monitor or projector, microphone and sound system, etc. Surely someone among our ranks knows

of the perfect venue that could be had for a very reasonable sum (Aerie #3 was only $600 a year but *free* would be even better if it could be found!)

Now just seems a perfect time to begin this "location search" since it would not require a large group to show up to view the site and thus would fall well within the 5 or less state mandate. And due to the disruption of Covid-19, it's likely many venues are eager to work deals that could be a bargain, just to get people back in their facility when the time comes for "freedom of assembly" to be restored.

If this sounds like you, or someone you know who is a member, or perhaps a small team, just let me or any other officer know. It would be a fun project for many folks to take on, and start seeking out the next ideal place for us to meet on that second Saturday one day soon (we all hope) when we can meet again in person.

With that, I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer! The weather of late has been spectacular, with that nice trade-off of a little rain to offset the sun, but without too much heat, that has made all our gardens grow so well this year.

My best regards to all

Dave
W7UUU

Dave W7UUU at the IC-746 operating position with FD 2020 Patch from Mike W7MKE. During Field day 2020 stay at home event. Dave was using a rig acquired from the estate of John,W7JJV a club member who is now a silent Key. Dave wanted to use this radio to get WAS.

N3FJP's Amateur Contact Log 6.6 www.n3fjp.com

File Edit Settings Clear CallBook List Search Awards eLogs Recall Net View Help

Find

Recent Contacts

Rec#	Call	Date / Time	Bnd	Mode	Snt	Rec	Country	ST	County	Name	O	S	R	Comments
11795	WW5M	6/28/2020 00:47	20	CW	599	599	USA	TN	Tipton	WILLIAM		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1E TN - W
11794	NN7ZZ	6/28/2020 00:40	20	CW	599	599	USA	UT	Cache			Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1E UT -
11793	K0NW	6/28/2020 00:35	20	CW	599	599	USA	CA	Orange	EDWARD		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1d ORG -
11792	W3BES	6/28/2020 00:32	20	CW	599	599	USA	UT	Davis			Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D UT - N
11788	N0KV	6/27/2020 23:01	20	CW	599	599	USA	CO	Douglas	BARRY		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D CO - I
11787	W4NTO	6/27/2020 22:53	20	CW	599	599	USA	SC	Spartanburg			Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D SC - N
11786	K0NM	6/27/2020 22:44	20	CW	599	599	USA	TX	Fort Bend	NIZAR		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D STX -
11785	KH7X	6/27/2020 22:36	20	CW	599	599	USA	AZ				Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1E AZ - C
11784	N5SJ	6/27/2020 22:28	20	CW	599	599	USA	NM	McKinley	MICHAEL		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D NM - I
11783	W3WL	6/27/2020 22:08	15	CW	599	599	USA	GA	Fulton	WESLEY		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1d GA - W
11782	AC9S	6/27/2020 22:02	15	CW	599	599	USA	IL	McLean	KEITH		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D IL - KI
11781	NJ8M	6/27/2020 21:58	15	CW	599	599	USA	KS	Shawnee	MORGAN		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 2D KS -
11780	K9NR	6/27/2020 21:53	10	CW	599	599	USA	IL	Kankakee	DONALD		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D IL - D
11779	N7W	6/27/2020 21:30	10	SSB	59	59	USA	WY		Lee		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 2A WYO
11778	W5WZ	6/27/2020 21:07	10	CW	599	599	USA	LA	Ouachita	Scott		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 2E LA - S
11777	N0KV	6/27/2020 20:43	10	CW	599	599	USA	CO	Douglas	BARRY		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D CO - I
11776	N5CXX	6/27/2020 20:31	10	CW	599	599	USA	TX	Dallas			Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D NTX -
11775	KZ5D	6/27/2020 20:23	10	CW	599	599	USA	LA	Iberia	H DAVID		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D LA - 7
11774	K0FX	6/27/2020 20:19	10	CW	599	599	USA	CO	Arapahoe	DONALD		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D CO -D
11773	N5OT	6/27/2020 20:14	10	CW	599	599	USA	OK	Washington	MARK		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1B OK - M
11772	K5LG	6/27/2020 20:11	10	CW	599	599	USA	AR	Boone	Lester		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1D AR - L
11771	K5TQ	6/27/2020 19:45	10	CW	599	599	USA	NM	Bernalillo	GARY		Y	N	IC-746 FD 1E NM - GA
11770	KE4F	6/27/2020 19:42	10	CW	599	599	USA	FL	Broward	Ronald		Y	N	IC-746 - FD 1A NFL -
11769	W7RY	6/27/2020 19:36	15	CW	599	599	USA	MT	Missoula			Y	N	IC-746 - FD 2A MT

Above, is the log extract from Dave's Field day log showing the contact for the last state needed for the Worked All States Award. Dave always has something going on over there at radio W7UUU and he tries to get WAS on each rig in the shack!

Above is the radio, an Icom IC-746 PRO from the estate of John W7JJV and that is John in the photograph. We have lost a great number of hams recently, so lets all think about John and the others who have passed...

From the Editor

Hello Again, club members! This month is all about Field Day, so I will join the assembled crowd and use this space to review my own Field Day activities. I spent most of the time at Nick K7MO's field day club activity as N7PP. As some may remember, this was the Call sign of the south Hill Contest club when Jerry W7BUN was around and living. We used to contest there all the time using the N7PP club call. Nick is now the trustee of the club and we did a 2E at his home in Tacoma. Then I also did a short run at home using my call to contribute a bit towards the cumulative W7DK score. So, here is a bit of the story and pictures from the N7PP event!

First, the station…

Upper left: K7MO/ N7PP antennas. Steppir Beam and 40 meter dipole. Upper right: Drake R4C and TX4C old timey station!

Left: modern station: Elecraft K3, with all the accessories! Please note that the "big amp" is turned off! All station rigs and accessories were run off Nick's generator. 100 watts (or less!) during Field day is kind of a tradition...

Now; the people!

Left: Yours truly, Gary WG7X and Nick K7MO adjusting the dipole.

Below left: Valerie K7VAP at the modern station and then Anna K7ANA also at the modern station, pictured below.

Left: Steven K7YEM at the Drake Station.

Below: he was on the night shift: Clay K7CR

An assorted bunch here! Upper left Gary WG7X and Nick K7MO discussing strategy in the basement shack: truly ham radio heaven down there! Upper left, Gary at the Modern station.

Middle left, Nick gassing up the generator. Below left, Anna at the entrance to the basement shack.

All in all a good time was had by all and thanks to Nick and Anna for hosting this event!

Radio Club of Tacoma

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

July 1, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

Meeting called to order at 19:00 local by Dave Ellison-W7UUU

Officers and Directors Present

President Dave Ellison W7UUU

Vice President Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Board Bruce Hanson WE7P

Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Board Red Cranefield WB7EC

Board Phil Pia K7PIA

Quorum: A quorum was present and 14 People were present during all or part of the ZOOM meeting. The attendance list is attached.

Silent Key or Illness?

David Carl Andresen – W7HTJ, age 78, of Lakewood, WA passed away peacefully at home on June 23, 2020.

Nick Winter –K7MO has a surgery Tuesday and will be resting for a couple of weeks.

Red-WB7EC has been getting shots in his back and leg but has limited mobility due to pain

Approval of Minutes: A motion made by Mike- W7XTZ and seconded by Bruce -WE7P to approve the June 3, 2020 RCT BOD minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report (W7MKE): Some routine correspondence like bills, magazines is all this month. Real Property valuation received and taxes for 2021 are based on $336,200, up from $303,000 for 2020.

Treasurer's Report (AF7YD): Financial Report for RCT as of 6/30/2020: Current Balance all bank accounts REDACTED. Current expenses for 2020 have exceeded income by **redacted.** Steve AF7YD, Treasurer

Committee / Reports

Membership (K7GRS): George-K7GRS reported that In 2020 RCT has had five members go SK: Bob Jameson-KE7WPK, Al Churchill-AC7BU, CT Ballard-N7UH, Ray Pedersen-W7KFN and Dick Hazelmyer-K7CYZ. New membership added is: Steve Kreitzmann-WA9A, Will Kreitzmann-W9WIL, Larry Shank, WT7WTF and John Coyne-W0JMC. Total membership currently stands at 278.

Training (AD7AB): No current report. Stephen reported last month that the next Technician Class is tentatively scheduled for October

John reported last month that next VE testing is July 14

Info Tech and Website (WB4SPB) : Some systems nominal, classroom computer system still down. Randy always appreciates help with website, notify him for needed updates. Randy is still working on logbook stuff.

HF Operations (K7PIA): Phil reports HF committee is still on hiatus. He hasn't checked HF station lately. Please send in logs to Dave-W7UUU if you want a Loggers Certificate.

Repeater Ops (N7OMS): APRS antenna and repeater installed in clubhouse, thanks KR7W. For more information about repeater activities read the June BARK.

DNR changed the lock at Crawford Mountain gate and they will send a key to RCT address.

Facilities Mgmt. (W2NCC): Adam had nothing to report for now. When club resumes will try to do some stuff on the cheap to preserve our resources.

Property Mgmt. (WB7EC): No report.

Museum (KR7W): No report.

History Committee (AD7AV) : Randy-WB4SPB reported for the history committee. The histories that were in the BARK will be made into a booklet and made available to RCT members sometime in August and/or when we do the ARRL 100th Anniversary. Thank you George-K7GRS for putting together the booklet.

Weds Workshop (WB4SPB): Randy reported a tentative plan for a program this month but hasn't heard from the presenter so for now it's TBD. Next Wednesday will have a workshop on presenting logs to ARRL for FD.

General Meeting (KF7SCB) : Verna reported that the July general meeting will be about FD experiences. Verna offered her sincere thanks to everyone who helped.

Unfinished Business

Re: August 9 RCT Picnic and ARRL 100 YR presentation

Verna reported that WA State is not ready to move to modified Phase II and more cases are being reported, so looks doubtful for change of status in this state by August 9th picnic. Mike-W7XTZ moved to cancel the picnic for August 9th, Adam W2NCC seconded the motion. Discussion was whether to have a ZOOM meeting instead with no decision. Motion passed to cancel August Picnic.

14th St. Encroachment.

No new communication from the City of Tacoma so far.

Update on scheduling of tower grounding and other tower work.

Nick-K7MO reports that no work will begin until Pierce County goes to Phase III (Covid-19 protocol) but not before mid-August at the earliest.

New Business

None

Activity Reports and Discussion Topics

None

Announcements

Anyone who worked FD at Home with their own call sign can have a 2020 Field Day at Home patch. Contact Mike-W7MKE to get yours. See a picture of patch in June BARK. (Also on page 6 here – Ed.)

For those who'd like help with FD log submissions, a ZOOM session is scheduled for July 8 at 7PM Red-WB7EC reported another club (in CA) made FD a club contest and gave out HRO gift certificates to winners.

Adjournment at: 19:45

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Drorbaugh-W7MKE

RCT Secretary

Radio Club of Tacoma

Monthly Meeting

July 11, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

Meeting called to order at 13:28 local by Dave Ellison-W7UUU

Officers and Directors Present

President Dave Ellison W7UUU

Secretary Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board Bruce Hanson WE7P

Board Paul Matney W7PFU

Board Phil Pia K7PIA

Board Adam Barbera W2NCC

Attendance was 20 RCT members who were present for some or all of the meeting. There were no visitors. Attendance list is attached.

Silent Key or Illness?

David Carl Andresen – W7HTJ, age 78, of Lakewood, WA passed away peacefully at home on June 23, 2020.

Nick winter K7MO lost a toe (diabetes) and is recovering. Not a "piece of cake" he says.

Red Cranefield WB7EC suffering from neuralgia in legs/back and is uncomfortable being on his feet for long.

Secretary's Report (W7MKE)

Some routine correspondence like bills and magazines is all this month. Real Property valuation received and accessed value for 2121 property tax is up about 11% from 2020.

Treasurer's Report (AF7YD)

Expenses this year exceed income by about $2200; total balance of all accounts is about "redacted".

Committee / Reports

Membership (K7GRS)

George-K7GRS reported that In 2020 RCT has lost five members to SK: Bob Jameson-KE7WPK, Al Churchill-AC7BU, CT Ballard-N7UH, Ray Pedersen-W7KFN and Dick Hazelmyer-K7CYZ. New membership added is: Steve Kreitzmann-WA9A, Will Kreitzmann-W9WIL, Larry Shank, WT7WTF and John Coyne-W0JMC. Total membership currently stands at 278.

Training (AD7AB)

Stephen reported last month that the next Technician Class is tentatively scheduled for October. He recently reported that the 2020 Washington State Fair has been cancelled. A letter from WA State Fair is attached to this report.

John AC7WW reported last month that next VE testing is July 14 in cars again

Info Tech and Website (WB4SPB)

Some systems nominal, classroom computer system still down.

Randy always appreciates help with website, notify him for needed updates. He has received a few notes for correction so thank you; he can't keep up with everything. Dave-W7UUU gave a big thank you to Randy for all his help on FD this year and providing links on W7DK.org and helping us with logs, and passing traffic.

HF Operations(K7PIA)

Phil reports HF committee is still on hiatus. He hasn't checked HF station lately, but will visit on 7/14. Any questions for HF committee please contact Phil or Al – N7OMS Please send in logs to Dave-W7UUU if you want a Loggers Certificate. Contest: IARU HF Worldwide Championship 12:00Z July 11, 12.

Repeater Ops (N7OMS)

APRS antenna and repeater are installed in clubhouse, thanks KR7W. For more information about repeater activities read the June BARK. DNR changed the lock at Crawford Mountain gate and they will send a key to RCT address.

Facilities Mgmt. (W2NCC)

Adam has nothing to report currently. When club resumes he will try to do some stuff on the cheap to preserve our resources.

Property Mgmt. (WB7EC)

Steve Blacksten AD7VL has donated a considerable amount of ham gear to the Club. Inventory is pending, but there is some good stuff, especially antennas, antenna switches, SWR and SWR power meters, 2-3 AM/FM antique table top radios, a couple of handi talkies a D104 Lollipop microphone, some straight keys, a paddle and some Morse keyers plus lots of other stuff. We'll try to get it inventoried and posted or listed in BARK ASAP.

Museum (KR7W)

Nothing new, No report

History Committee (AD7AV)

Randy-WB4SPB reported for the history committee at July BOD. The histories that were serialized in the BARK will be made into a booklet and made available to RCT members sometime in August (hopefully) when we do the ARRL 100th Anniversary. Thank you George-K7GRS for putting together the booklet.

They are hoping that the booklet will be available at cost, perhaps $5-6 per copy.

Weds Workshop (WB4SPB)

Randy's potential presenter has not responded to emails so topic is TBD.

Bark Editor (WG7X)

Thank you to he contributors to the Loggers Bark. Helps make it easier for him.

General Meeting Program (KF7SCB)

Share your FD at home experiences:

Verna-KF7SCB has written an article for the BARK on FD at Home. So far 13 people have associated their logs with RCT to ARRL: AG7WI, K7FDR, K7YEM, KA7NWF, KF7GPO; KF7SCB, N7TES, W7LKG, W7UUU, WB4SPB, WE7P, WG7X and KC7PS.

Verna did some net control for message trafficking and Larry Watson-KD7VOM and Randy-WB4SPB passed traffic.

Dave W7UUU shared some slides of his experiences trying to contact all 50 states in honor of his Old Friend SK--W7JJV, John Vickers whose Icom 746 radio Dave used.

Adam-W2NCC finally got his radio and amplifier on line and made about 100 contacts. He programmed his radio w/ man-in-box. FD kind of motivated him to get his station up.

Gary-WG7X shared about working with N7PP; a small club group working at K7MO's house as a 2E Station. Gary thinks they made about 400 QSOs.

Leonard-KA7NWF said his propagation is mostly N-S but made about 100 QSO's.

W7MKE- Reported working the W7DK station as a 1D with: N7OMS, W2NCC, AF7YD and KR7W, somewhere around 100+ QSOs. He also worked his home station for about 40 QSOs mostly on FT8/FT4.

Steve AF7YD also reported working the W7DK station and reported his CW skills are almost ready to go live.

Phil- K7PIA reported on M&K club efforts on Camino Island and they made 1100 QSOs working as a 2E station.

Bruce-WE7P worked 1D station from home making about 200 QSOs working both Saturday and Sunday. He worked strictly digital.

Deanna- KA7DCX passed traffic and submitted her report online gaining 150 points for W7DK.

Phil-KC7PS worked both sat/sun and made about 23 QSOs. He got his log uploaded during the meeting. Good job Phil!

Jeff-KB7QAG also worked making several contacts on 2M.

Verna thanked all involved who helped get FD at home going this year.

Unfinished Business

The August 9th RCT picnic has been cancelled and deposit returned, more about August activities later in announcements.

14th St. Encroachment No new communication from the City of Tacoma so far.

Update on scheduling of tower grounding and other tower work . Nick-K7MO reports that no work will begin until Pierce County goes to Phase III (Covid-19 protocol) but not before mid-August at the earliest.

New Business

Nothing offered.

Announcements

August 8, 2020 we will have a ZOOM monthly meeting in lieu of the picnic. We will be celebrating 100 years of affiliation with ARRL and a commemorative plaque will be presented by Mike Ritz W7VO, our ARRL District Director who will attend our ZOOM Meeting.

Anyone who worked FD at Home with their own call sign can have a 2020 Field Day at Home patch. Contact Mike-W7MKE to get yours. See a picture of patch in June BARK. (Also in this edition –Ed.)

Some club members are holding a bunny hunt at Pt. Defiance Park July 14. If you want to join in, you can get all the details at Rick Patrick's.

blog: https://kr7w.blogspot.com

There will be a zoom Hamfest August 8, 9th 2020. See: https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/# for details.

Tuning and Traffic

Nothing heard.

Show and Tell

Phil-K7PIA showed QSL cards from German DXpedition who went to El Salvador using HU1DL. He also got a card from Texas from 5-year old contact, some JA cards and an Albania card.

Walt- WA7SDY got a Nano VNA and vector analyzer. It comes in a nice box with connectors for external connections and calibration devices.

Dave W7UUU showed his 20 MW CW Transmitter that actually made a contact with WA6TLK (Steilacoom) all the way from Burley!

W2NCC told of a good 40M openings and he made some contacts in FL.

DAVE-W7UUU mentioned again that 10M propagation was good from time to time lately.

PJ-N7PH showed his barometer project.

Adjournment at: 14:55 Local.

Respectfully,

Mike Drorbaugh-W7MKE

RCT Secretary

Attachments:

Attendance List

Letter from WA State Fair

MAILBAG!

We get mail! Keep those cards and letters coming in folks! Be the first on your block to be published in the "Logger's Bark"!

Rich, KR7W sends in the "Not a bunny hunt" story!

NOT A BUNNY HUNT (Another) Report

The second (***Non***-RCT approved or sponsored) Bunny Hunt took place July 14 at Point Defiance Park at the N Mildred Street entrance. On this nice WX day- 6 hunters participated to find 4 transmitters along the wooded trails in the park whilst keeping their social distance. This time each of the 4 transmitters were hidden by a different participant. This way the transmitter hider got to hunt 3 transmitters.

The area was divided up into 3 sections. The first 3 hiders were assigned a section. The 4th hider was a 'wild card' and could hide the bunny in any section. The Hiders communicated with the Hunt Net Control station on the established COMM Channel. When the NCS knew all bunnies were hidden– then the GO AHEAD was given for all hunters to start. This method worked out well– and it was very Ham Radio like with handy talkies on our belts. Sorry– no photos taken of hams in action.

Participants: Chuck AC7QN, Al N7OMS, Mike W7MKE, Steve AF7YD, Mike W7XTZ, Rich KR7W.

For Bark readers who are interested in Hidden Transmitter Hunting- *Google it* or

For Upcoming Hunt info: https://kr7w.blogspot.com/

Equipment: https://kr7w.blogspot.com/2016/01/2-meter-ardf-attenuator-project-project.html Questions: email me: KR7W at W7DK dot ORG

Reported by Rich KR7W aka Cub Reporter

More mail from the intrepid cub reporter: Rich, KR7W!

KR7W's almost modern station used to operate in the 2020 Stay at Home Field Day.

L-R: Icom IC-2720 70cm-2M mobile. Icom IC-7700 HF + SPKR. Dell Win 10 PC.

Left PC screen shows the selected band using a SDR-Play receiver connected the antenna path by home-brew electronic T-R switch. Right PC screen shows N3FJP logging.

Antenna is a 4 band Fan Dipole / Inv Vee, 40 ft at the apex.

105 CW + 1 SSB QSOs made on 40 + 20 Meters. 3 CW QSOs were made with using the 1955 vintage vacuum tube station shown in April 2020 Bark pg 26.

L: Dave W7HTJ, R: PJ N7PH. Photo take at RCT's 2018 Big Tent Field Day event. The ops had just made a 6 meter CW QSO via a balloon hoisted antenna.

RCT member Dave, an avid SDR user and tinkerer- frequented the Clubhouse on Saturdays and SKNs sadly passed away on June 23.

Motorola instructs the radio user to hold the MIC-1 inch from the mouth to ensure you will be sound clear and understandable.

Next in the mailbag, a field day report from Verna KF7SCB; this year's Field day Coordinator!

Field Day 2020 – A Historic Event

The 2020 ARRL Field Day event made history, thanks to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. At the Radio Club of Tacoma, weeks of self-isolating at home and the temporary closure of the clubhouse necessitated several significant adaptations . Club members responded with creative solutions. Adam Barbera, W2NCC, set up a weekly virtual clubhouse on the Zoom platform, Gary McAdams, WG7X, served as the net control/host of the new Doughnut Eaters net and Patrick Vaglica, K7DKP, set up a Discord online chat room. These measures made it easier for club members to maintain social connections and enabled planning for the club's first-ever Field Day at Home.

Randy Myers, WB4SPB set up a special page on the club website and kept it updated as plans for event evolved. Rookie Field Day Coordinator, Verna Lilly, KF7SCB, focused on maximizing options for club members, most of whom operated from home as Class 1D stations. Many club members contributed to the overall effort with sound advice and assistance. To cap it all off, Mike Drorbaugh, W7MKE, created a one-of-a-kind commemorative patch. Looking forward to next year and beyond, the Radio Club of Tacoma has ably demonstrated it is fully prepared to operate in challenging conditions with expertise, camaraderie and good humor.

Lots of mail this month! Next is another Field day picture from Ed, AG7WI.

RCT member Ed AG7WI, operating class 1A from his Graham back yard. No further data was available, but looking good ED!

Next up for the Field day Parade, Chuck AC7QN!

Go to the field – No wait, stay at home

Field day operation by Chuck AC7QN

In the spirit of field day/simulated emergency radio communications I decided to go to the field by staying home, erecting a temporary antenna on the deck and operate using a battery. Since operating using a battery is limited as far as total operating time I limited power to 5 watts also known as QRP operation. Field day class 1B – Battery.

Reading the field day rules I became aware there is a 5X multiplier of points for 5 watts or less operating with a battery.

A "crappy pole" was anchored to the N.E. and S.E. deck rail. 64 feet of # 22 insulated hookup wire was attached to the poles in a horizontal, droopy, configuration. 64 feet on 40 meters is ½ wave length, so this became an EFHW, end fed half wave. High impedance at the feed point requires transformation so a 9:1 toroidal xfmr was used at the feed point. A 15 foot #22 wire was attached to the xfmr oriented vertical as the counterpoise. Next a current choke then 45 feet of rg58 coax terminated with a Elecraft KX3. The KX3 internal tuner took care of cleaning up the match. Battery was a LiPo 4 cell 5.0 AH with an ACME Labs regulator maintaining 12 volts.

19 contacts were made on bands 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 in approximately 4 hrs spread through the 24 hr operating period.

Strategy was all search and pounce with maybe a slight off frequency (100 hz) signal to get attention.

Successful, simple (KISS) QRP operation and a bit of a change from typical FD operating.

(Dates and times on photos are inaccurate)

2019/08/06 23:15:06

2019/08/12 01:15:56

14 196.8
2019/08/06 23:15:55

THERE'S A REAL
THRILL IN BEING ABLE TO
SEND AND COPY CODE PERFECTLY

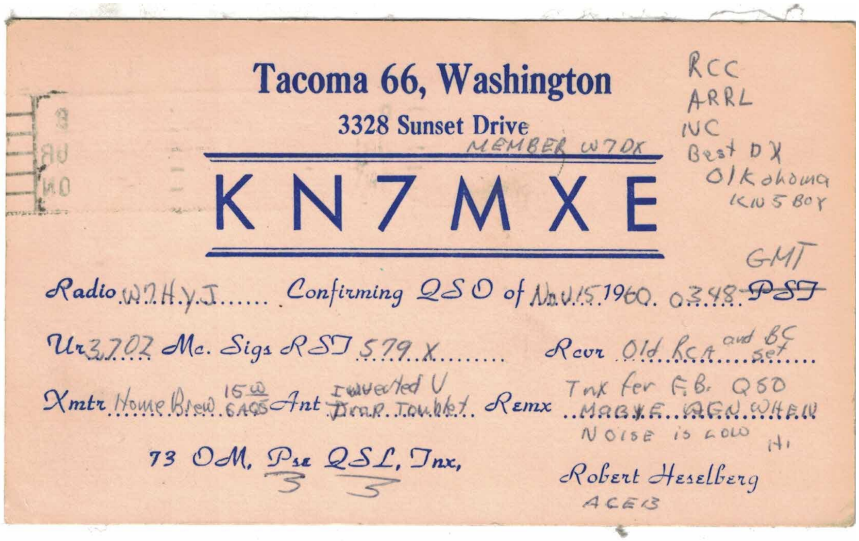
Now Randy, WB4SPB with his Field day report!

I operated 1D, made 111 QSOs on 80/40/20/15 CW, and handled 5 pieces of traffic. I have separate doublet antennas on each side of my house, about 40 feet apart. I mainly use the east-side doublet, the other one serves my basement workbench. I wasn't making many 40M contacts, so I took down the west-side doublet and put up what I intended as a simple 40M reflector element, in hopes of enhancing my eastward coverage. I couldn't really tell if it helped, but tinkering with my antenna system felt very "in the spirit" of Field Day.

73,
Randy WB4SPB

Last, but not least is a note from Bob K7MXE!

July 26th is the day on the date of my new novice ticket, it arrived in the mail a few days later. 60 years ago this week. New ham rig was not much. A piece of wire, A nice Speedex key as a gift that I still have and a Ameco AC1 transmitter that I got at C and G for four dollars and a brand new PR Crystal another couple of dollars and a old all wave console radio by RCA with no bfo.
Not much but I did make contacts and had a blast. Later on Jack K7DBU gave me a two band transmitter with a 6AQ5 single tube. This is pretty good for a 13 year old kid and the start of 60 years of ham radio.
Thanks to W7UUU for scoring my qsl card in a antique shop for a qso Nov of 1960.
The novice ticket good for a year and I took the general and was not easy having a day off of school but not a federal holiday. Those days the FCC office in Seattle was full of kids. First time passed the code but failed by one or two the written with hand drawn schematics. Second time failed the code but got both on third try.
Over the years I saw lots of change with AM going away and SSB coming in and in the sixties Heathkit came out with the HW12 and for 99.95 you could get a choice of 80, 40, or 20 meter transceiver and make your own power supply from a TV transformer. Or do like K7MQJ did with a alligator clip on the plate cap of his AM transmitter for high voltage. K7MO just got a HW12 at the swap meet and maybe he can give us a report on how that turned out.
So that is what got started on July 26, sixty years ago. Bob K7MXE ex KN7MXE



The Club LINEUP

Club Officers

President: Dave Ellison, W7UUU - w7uuu©w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Mike Mikuchonis, W7XTZ - w7xtz©w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE - w7mke@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd©w7dk.org

5 Board Members

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p©w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu©w7dk.org

Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc©w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec©w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia©w7dk.org

The Logger's Bark is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*… and is published by RCT, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law. All proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98405, phone: 253-759-2040.

Logger's Bark Staff

Editor: Gary McAdams WG7X wg7x@w7dk.org

Contributors: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma

ARRL Liaison: Unassigned

Send articles to: bark-editor@w7dk.org, or Radio Club of Tacoma, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411

The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org.

Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The Loggers Bark if a credit line is included in the article. Please seek permission from the original writer also.

Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) membership is $35 per calendar year or $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia © 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3